

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 03026 201635Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 FEA-02 OMB-01 DRC-01 /138 W

----- 065999

R 200415Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0931

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 3026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SN, UK

SUBJECT: LEE KUAN YEW'S VISIT TO LONDON

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. DEPUTY U.K. HICOM WATTS PASSED ON TO CHARGE JULY 19
FOLLOWING INFO AND COMMENTS ON PRIME MINISTER LEE'S
RECENT VISIT TO LONDON:

A. LEE HAD FINALLY ADVISED HMG OF GOS PREFERENCES IN EVENT
OF UK DECISION TO CUT BACK FORCES. LEE HAD RECOMMENDED
THAT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE UK RETAIN AIR AND NAVAL UNITS IN
SINGAPORE, AND THAT IF DECISION HAD TO BE TAKEN TO WITHDRAW
SOME FORCES IT WOULD BE BEST TO WITHDRAW ARMY BATTALION.

B. LEE HAD GOTTEN ALONG WELL WITH PRIME MINISTER WILSON AND
MINISTER OF DEFENSE MASON, BUT HAD IRRITATED MIDDLE LEVEL
OFFICIALS BY STRESSING THAT WHEN UK HAD WITHDRAWN BULK OF ITS
FORCES IN LATE SIXTIES, THEY HAD REMOVED SOME ITEMS WHICH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 03026 201635Z

HAD PROPERLY BELONGED TO SINGAPORE. WATTS WAS NOT SPECIFIC, BUT

SAID ITEMS LEE MENTIONED WERE EXTREMELY MINOR, AND THAT MOD
OFFICIALS WERE CONVINCED HE HAD HIS FACTS ALL WRONG.

C. LEE INFORMED HMG THAT GOS WAS "UNDER PRESSURE" FROM THE
SOVIETS TO ALLOW THE U.S.S.R. TO ESTABLISH AN ON-SHORE OIL
STORAGE FACILITY IN SINGAPORE.

D. LEE RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT QUITE DEPRESSED ABOUT THE
POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE UK AND THE TOTAL LACK OF REAL INTEREST
IN THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA. HE CONFIDED TO SOME OF
HIS ASSOCIATES THAT UK WOULD BE IN A "PALSIED" CONDITION
FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR.

2. WATTS SAID THERE NOW APPEARED TO BE AN INCREASING
LIKELIHOOD THAT HMG WOULD POSTPONE ANY DECISION TO CUT
BACK FORCES UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION WHICH WOULD ALMOST
CERTAINLY BE HELD IN THE FALL.
GRANT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SINGAP03026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740196-0619
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740731/aaaabaqf.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEE KUAN YEW'S VISIT TO LONDON CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SN, UK, UR, (LEE KUAN YEW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005